

of the problematical spines under discussion pertaining to the same group is thus rendered more worthy of consideration. In any case the name *Cælorhynchus* is obviously inappropriate, as well remarked by Williamson; but it has yet to be determined whether the dentition of the same fish has not already become known under some other suitable generic title.

XXVIII.—*Description of a new Bat of the Genus Nyctophilus.*

By OLDFIELD THOMAS.

AMONG the mammals obtained by Mr. H. O. Forbes at Sogere, South-east New Guinea, and acquired by the Natural-History Museum, there occur two specimens of a bat belonging to the widely-spread genus *Nyctophilus*, but apparently not referable to *N. timorensis*, the only previously recognized species of the genus. I propose to call it

*Nyctophilus microtis*, sp. n.

General characters as in *N. timorensis*, but the ears very much smaller, when laid forward not reaching beyond the tip of the muzzle; their connecting band across the forehead nearly or quite obsolete in the centre. Upper third of outer margin of ears straight instead of convex, the tip of the ear being therefore narrower and more pointed than in *N. timorensis*. Otherwise the shape of the ears, of the tragus, and of the nose-leaf are all much as in that species, as also are the colour and distribution of the fur, the insertion of the wing-membranes, the development of the postcalcanal lobe, and the characters of the interfemoral membrane.

Measurements of the type, an adult male in alcohol:—Head and body 49 millim.; tail 42; ear, length above crown 12, breadth 11; tragus, length of internal edge 5·2; forearm 37·8; lower leg 17·3; hind foot 7·7; calcaneum 14.

The second specimen has a forearm 39 millim. in length.

The species is therefore rather smaller than *N. timorensis*, which has a forearm varying in length from about 41 to 48 millim. Owing to its small and unconnected ears *N. microtis* is quite without that look of resemblance to the European long-eared bat so characteristic of *N. timorensis*—a species which, as Dr. Dobson has remarked, “evidently takes the place of *Plecotus auritus* in the Australian region.”